

Vol. 31 No. 10

Winner 1992 Army Communities of Excellence Award

October 1994

ST. LOUIS ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT **ESPRIT**

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District wins Mouton award



Colonel Suermann receives the Locke L. Mouton Award for Public Affairs Excellence from BG Witherspoon, Lower Mississippi Valley Division Commander, aboard the M/V Mississippi during the annual low water inspection trip.

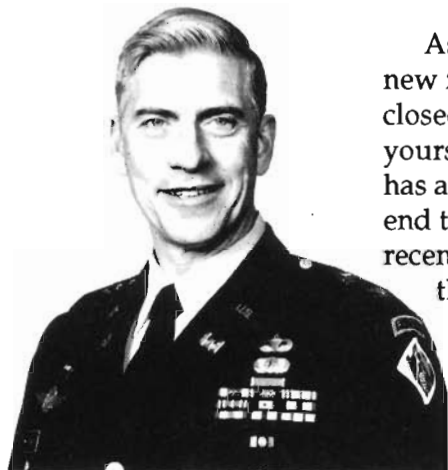
As most of you know by now, the District's Media Center, which was opened during the flood of 1993 to handle news media inquiries, has won the 1994 Locke L. Mouton Award for Public Affairs Excellence in the category of Emergency/Disaster Response.

The reason it won is simple. We had the people to set it up, staff it and support it in a manner that made it work magnificently.

There were so many people involved that I won't attempt to list them here. You know who you are. The District and the Corps are proud of the people and the effort and the teamwork that made it happen. Here's to all of us. Let's hope we never have to do it again.



Commander's Perspective –



COL Thomas C. Suermann

As you read this issue of our newspaper we are beginning a new fiscal year. We have endured the annual ritual of "end of year closeout" and some of you have probably already thought to yourselves "never again!" Unfortunately, just as every fiscal year has an optimistic beginning, it also usually has a frantic, frustrating end to it. Although you may be tempted to concentrate on the recent mental pain which you may have experienced in preparing the numerous reports that are required, I would like to encourage you to focus on the positive aspects of what they mean to our organization.

In a very real sense, our end of year reports are our internal report cards or progress reports on our successes for the year. They document our achievements and prepare us for our next execution cycle. They mentally tune us to prepare for the new fiscal year in the right key just as we would tune a musical instrument from time to time after intensive use.

This time of year in our organizational life cycle also allows us to come together again as a team. This is not as easy to accomplish as it may appear to some of you. At the recent Senior Leaders Conference, which the District hosted for the Corps, Charlie Cheung, from Pacific Ocean Division, reminded our senior leadership of this simple fact. Charlie shared some of his classic wisdom with the attendees, which I want to share with you. He reminded the audience that coming together as a team is a beginning; keeping together is progress; but working together is magic. Teamwork, just like customer care, requires magic, not just hard work. It doesn't come from luck or hit or miss approaches to accomplishing our mission.

To sustain magic in our organization, we must have a consuming passion for what we are doing. Our passion need not be ostentatious, but it must be buried within and embedded in each of us so that we have the sustaining power to weather hard times, hurt feelings, temporary setbacks or even end of year closeouts.

I have seen a great deal of magic in this organization and I'll be looking for more of it in the future. Be careful! Rumor has it that it is contagious.



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
St. Louis District

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News Briefs

Dinner Dance

The 1995 Annual Dinner Dance will be held on Saturday, February 11, 1995, at the Holiday Inn in Collinsville, Illinois.

Tickets are \$12.50 each. Reduced prices are being considered for retirees and their guests.

The theme for the Dinner Dance is Valentine's Day. Everyone is encouraged to wear or accent their attire with pink or red. Attendance prizes will be given.

The meal consists of a choice of Honey Dijon Chicken, Grilled Yellow Fin Tuna or Roasted Sirloin of Beef.

Tickets will go on sale in January. When purchasing your tickets, please state the meal preference. Reservations for group tables will be taken when tickets are purchased.

For more information, contact Janet Ulivi at 331-8288.

Employee benefits

FEHB open season from Nov. 14 to Dec. 12, 1994

During this period, employees not enrolled will have the opportunity to enroll. Those currently enrolled may change their enrollments.

This does not apply to stay-in-school employees or to temporary employees with less than one year of continuous service. They are not eligible for health benefits.

TSP open season from Nov. 15, 1994, to Jan. 31, 1995

During the open season, you may change the way future payroll contributions are invested in the three Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) funds. In addition, those of you hired between January 1, 1994 and June 30, 1994, will have the opportunity to invest contributions into the TSP accounts.

Wappapello Lake: New ranger

Wappapello Lake welcomes David Hobbie to their staff. David brings a diverse background of biological expertise to the lake. He comes to us from the Jacksonville District. Before that he was with

the Mobile District. He is currently employed in the recreation shop.

Management office

Wappapello Lake's new management office is open. The former management office has been converted to a visitor center.



The new management office at Wappapello Lake opened Aug. 15.

Rend Lake: Wetland restoration

The Atchison Creek Wetland restoration project at Rend Lake got underway in mid-July and is expected to be finished by the end of September. Wet soil conditions delayed the start of the project.

The wetland restoration project is part of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, a multi-agency cooperative program to protect wetland habitat. Rend Lake is located in the Joint Venture Area.

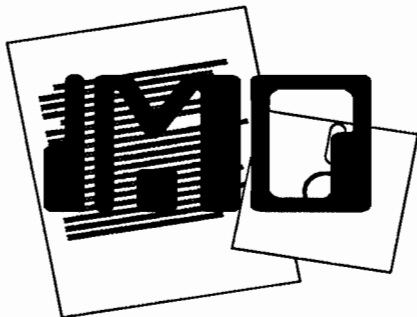
The project is a 96 acre moist soil unit being built adjacent to Atchison Creek. Construction of a levee and associated control structure will allow resource managers the opportunity to

manage water levels and provide quality wetland habitat.

The project is being built by Lake Construction, Inc.. Zeigler Coal Company provided funding for this project as a result of mitigation due to long wall mining activities under federal land at Rend Lake.

Airports add new pictogram

A new symbol is being added to those already found at airports. The icon, developed by Visa/PLUS ATM network, directs travelers to the nearest cash machine. The logo depicts a person with a bank card taking a bill out of an ATM. It will also be found on the cash machines themselves, according to Corporate Travel magazine.



Futurus Team is dead! Long live WordPerfect Office!

By John Jobst, IM-I

A memo dated July 29, 1994, from LMVD Commander, Brigadier General Witherspoon, mandates use of an E-Mail package which is fully compatible with the one in use at LMVD by November 1, 1994. Futurus Team (FT) and the mail gateway product from Retix which translates FT mail to a universal E-Mail format do not meet this requirement.

We have been working with the vendors for nearly three years to work out the bugs, with no results. They did not consider our requirements to be

corporate priorities, so we must now convert to a new system.

WordPerfect Office meets the compatibility requirements. WordPerfect Office is a popular group productivity package with E-Mail and personal, group and resource scheduling features made by the WordPerfect Corporation. It is not a windows system in and of itself, nor is it a word processing system. It is simply an E-Mail system made by WordPerfect.

WordPerfect Office offers new features such as the ability to file items in sub-folders of folders. An extensive set of "rules" can be used to force automatic action on an item as it is received. A side by side comparison of features will be made available. Some options, such as calculator and chat, are not included in WordPerfect Office. WordPerfect Office is a DOS program, not a TSR, which means that users must enter a command or pick an option from a menu to get into the program instead of hitting CTRL-LEFT-SHIFT to pop up the TSR.

A transition team made up of the administrators of the Lestat, LMS-ED and LMS-PM files servers, as well as key members of the IMO

customer support group, has been meeting regularly since August 16, 1994, to plan for the successful implementation of WordPerfect Office. Conversion of existing mail files is a high priority item. Disk space will be at a premium during conversion, so the time is right to review your mail now and delete items that are no longer needed. There currently appears to be no way to convert existing schedules. These must be re-entered by each user.

Training consisting of a 20 minute video and a hands-on session will occur during October 1994. Sufficient "Quick and Easy Office" guides are being printed for each user. Detailed reference manuals will be available for check-out from the IMO software documentation library. There will be some bumps in the road, no doubt of that. But everything that can be done to smooth them out is being done.

With a spirit of adventure, cooperation and of conquering the unknown, we can make this transition happen with a minimum of headaches.

CAC calendar of coming events

**October 26 - NACHO DAY/
BOOK FAIR**

Get your taste-buds ready for the Annual Nacho Day with a new twist: a USED BOOK SALE. Over the next few weeks bring your "recyclable" books/magazines to Laurel Lane (PM-M), Clarice Trigg (CO-Q) or Linda Wichlan (ED-GE). (This will be a donation of books to CAC. It isn't a consignment arrangement.) Watch the E-mail for further details.

October 19 thru 31 - SIX-FLAGS

Get your \$8 discount coupons available from Clarice Trigg (CO-Q) or Linda Wichlan (ED-GE).

**Tuesdays and Thursdays - BUS
PASS SALES**

See Linda Wichlan (ED-GE) for your Bi-State bus pass.

The CAC is always looking for new members. There were several new faces in the District office in

the last year. This is an excellent opportunity to meet people in other organizations.

If you are interested in helping out with any CAC activity, or if you have any suggestions for events/fund raisers that the CAC should provide, please contact one of your CAC representatives:

Randy Curtis, ED-GI, 8413
Ida Morris, ED-H, 8332
Janet Ulivi, ED-DC, 8288

(Continued on next page)



CFC

*Together,
We Make A
Difference*

Caring Federal Community

Time is not measured by the years that you live, but by the deeds that you do and the joy that you give.

While seemingly just another bit of paperwork, our efforts for the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) definitely make a difference in people's lives.

Let's take a look at the history of CFC. In 1957, President Eisenhower established a committee to review and modify scattered fund raising programs at federal agencies. Workers were being constantly solicited for funds by a variety of organizations.

In 1961, the CFC was created by President Kennedy as the only authorized agency to conduct work place solicitation. It is the sole authorized method for federal employees and members of the armed services to contribute to voluntary health and welfare agencies.

In 1981, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) liberalized the CFC guidelines and a much wider variety of charities and organizations became eligible to receive funds.

Finally, in 1988, a national and local agency eligibility process was established and OPM deleted the

write-in option of designating funds. All contributions, both cash and payroll deductions, must go to those approved agencies listed in the Contributor's Brochure.

The 1994 CFC promises to be both a challenging and rewarding experience. This is an opportunity for all of us to join to help each other and many others in the community. Anyone who wishes to use a CFC agency can benefit from it... the handicapped, the elderly, the disaster-stricken, the youth, those with emotional or marital problems, people looking for recreational or volunteer activities, impoverished persons overseas, etc.

Thousands of people in our community, and many individuals nationally and internationally, benefit from CFC services... swimming lessons at the "Y"s, scouting programs, family counseling and day care. In addition, the CFC agencies help preserve our environment and respond to personal tragedies as natural disasters occur. Agency services are geared toward helping people no matter what their income level may be. We all, indirectly, benefit from living and working in a healthier, happier world.

We, as federal employees, are facing many uncertainties regarding our careers; however, we can still reflect on the services we or someone we know may have used or may need in the future from any of the hundreds of agencies represented. We are not exempt from natural disasters or personal tragedies like those that so many others have faced in the past year. We continue to suffer cutbacks and the economy continues to shake the confidence of so many. However, if our past generosity can serve as an example, we will overcome these obstacles and the 1994 CFC will be a victory.

We have proven in the past to be a Caring Federal Community. The "Corps can DO More in '94!" Please support the CFC this year and consider the payroll deduction method of giving.

Angela Sanders
1994 CFC Project Officer

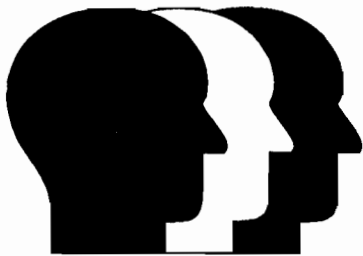
CAC (cont.)

Denise Brunson-Harris, PD-A, 8477
Linda Wichlan, ED-GE, 8421
Kenny Rogers, LM-T, 8021
Mary Ann Dostal, CO, 8557
Clarice Trigg, CO-Q, 8131
Fred Miller, PD-AC-F, 8792
Jesse Sanders, ED-DC, 8260

Lifetime CU memberships

Memberships at most credit unions continue even if you are no longer employed with the organization. Nearly 92 percent of credit unions have a "once a member, always a member" policy, according to figures compiled by the Credit Union National Association.

People can sustain their memberships in order to have continued access to credit union services. Credit unions often provide better rates and terms than are available from commercial financial institutions, says the Association.



EEO matters

By Harry Hamell, EEO Manager

Effective October 1, 1994, CEERP (pronounced like the colloquial sticky sauce put on pancakes and waffles) will be spread all over the Corps of Engineers.

What is CEERP? The Corps of Engineers Early Resolution Program (CEERP) is an alternative dispute resolution process which uses mediation to settle EEO precomplaints. The success rate (85 percent resolution) during the initial pilot stage has prompted expanded consideration of the program.

Mediation involves the intervention of a neutral and impartial third party in the dispute. The mediator facilitates the discussions between the disputing parties in an attempt to identify underlying causes and develop appropriate remedies to settle the dispute.

Who is eligible to participate in CEERP? Any aggrieved person: current, prospective, or former employees who initiate timely precomplaint EEO matters. Participation is voluntary.

Who is involved in the process? Settlement officials: Commanders or their designees who are authorized to execute settlement agreements. Mediators: Neutral and impartial third parties skilled in conflict resolution techniques and certified to participate in the CEERP process. ADR team members: EEO Officer (EEOO), Labor Counselor, and HR representative who determine applicability of CEERP process based upon issues raised and negotiable context.

When is CEERP initiated? Following the EEO counselor's inquiry under normal EEO procedures the aggrieved, as part of his/her rights of redress, is advised about CEERP. If the dispute is covered, the EEOO will provide the opportunity to participate in CEERP not later than the 24th day after initial counselor contact. If the aggrieved person chooses to participate they must notify the EEOO prior to the 29th day following initial contact.

How does CEERP work? The EEOO selects a mediator upon notice from the aggrieved person opting for CEERP. The EEOO is authorized to extend the precomplaint period up to an

additional 60 calendar days to allow for mediation. The mediator explains the method for conducting the session(s) which should be 1-2 days in duration. The disputes can be resolved by written settlement agreement or voluntary withdrawal of allegations. Any outstanding matters will be identified to the EEOO so that a final interview letter can be issued and the normal EEO complaint process can proceed on counseled issues.

Why CEERP? It allows parties to resolve disputes themselves, encourages open communications, avoids protracted litigation, and improves upon working relationships. The settlement agreements are binding, the process is informal, confidential, non-adversarial and voluntary.

Information is available on CEERP procedures. The process has been used for settling contract disputes for years and is now showing promise as a viable option in resolving EEO matters.

* * *

October is National Disability Month. Please support programs for the disabled and recognize contributions made by employees with disabilities. In a diversified work environment, acceptance is essential to all - even under the most trying of circumstances.

'White lies' may damage relationships

People who would never think of stretching the truth at work sometimes fib at home, say psychologists.

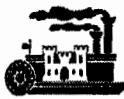
Being truthful with your partner is basic to developing mutual trust, but what about those "little white lies" people tell to

protect another person's feelings?

According to a study of students at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, the almost-innocent little lies can undermine a relationship. Researchers found that those who said they might tell a fib to avoid upsetting their closest friend or partner were not more satisfied

in their relationships than nondeceivers.

Those willing to lie to make themselves look good were less satisfied with their relationships than those who were not inclined to lie.



● District in softball tourney



By Keith McMullen, CO-F

● The 11th Annual Olympic Marine Softball Tourney was held at Valley Park, Missouri, on August 26-28. Three teams from the Corps of Engineers competed in the tourney which included 47 teams from around Missouri and Illinois, as well as Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana and others.

Once again the women proved to be the best of the three St. Louis District teams. To quote Brenda Hamell, "If you need it done, call on a woman!" Harry Hamell and Billy Arthur coached the women's team which captured the women's championship with scores of 18-3, 7-5, losing a close one 9-8 before bouncing back to trounce Thompson & Mitchell 10-3 for the trophy. Sharon Leaks was voted the Most Valuable Player and Lisa Wilkinson and Phyllis Cherry were selected to the All-Tournament Team. The rest of the members were: Brenda Hamell, Vivian Arthur, Marnett Shead, Debbie LeVacki, Lisa Blanchard,

Roberta Seidel, Kelly Bertoglio, Catina Lyles, Ruth Townley, Regina Woods, Bernice Appleby and Marge Robbins.

The Seniors Division Entry, coached by Kenny Rogers, were victorious in their first game 6-3. They lost a heartbreaker 22-21 in a game that featured excellent slugging and several comebacks, but they didn't have last bat. Being the home team was a big advantage Kenny's ACES didn't have. After that contest the 90+ heat began to take its toll as they bowed out of the tourney in their next contest 10-6. Team members were: Kenny Rogers, Barry Lloyd, Ron Messerli, Tom Niedernhofer, Dave Busse, Mike Kruckeburg, Dennis Fenske, Don Coleman, Ron Dieckmann, Dick Schaumburg and Mark Wunsch.

Special thanks to Jake Scanlon for volunteering to play in the hot sun to allow a less than 100 percent player to rest. And also later, after an injury forced another player out of the action, Jake was there again.

● Roger Siller and Barry Lloyd coached the last St. Louis District entry, the RiverRats, clad in their teal, designer rat shirts. They opened the tourney with a late

Friday game against Morton International, one of the semifinal teams. After a rough first inning the Rats settled down only to lose 19-9. Saturday afternoon saw the Rats defeat National Marine 25-22 in a slugfest that featured plenty of action. Next up was the Coast Guard. After two innings the Rats lead 9-0. The game appeared to be in the bag, but the Coast Guard bats came alive and the Rats wore down as they fell 16-11. Team members included: Barry Lloyd, Keith McMullen, Damon Cox, Kenny Rogers, Jeff Maynard, Gerald Allen, Todd Stoeckel, Myron Spencer, Craig Litteken, Dave Kelly, Captain Scott Fehnel, Ron Sample, Shane Peltis, Jim Hawn, Skip Birdsong, Marvis Houltts and George Croff.

Congrats to all for their efforts. Thanks to the following District personnel who attended some or all of the games in support of their fellow workers and who sweated with the rest of us: Sue Janota-Summers, Barb Jarman, Captain Scott Hand, Bill Groth, Wally and Kathy Feld, Arthur Abrams, Amy Wyers, Laurie Bussie, Joan Stemler, Jane Knese, Theresa Williams-Dye, and Alan Foreman. Also a special thanks to the husbands, wives, significant others and children of the players who also were there to show their support.

The RiverRats would like to thank Jack Rhodes for his efforts in making a rat look really cool. We're already thinking of next year's logo, Jack. We'll be in touch.

See ya' next August in Valley Park.



District golf season ends



The 1994 Corps of Engineers golf season came to a close with the playoffs for the league championship on September 8 and the annual fall tournament on September 12 at Clinton Hill Golf Club. The league championship was won by GolfTrek, captained by Bill Meldrum. Team members included Paul Roberts, John Dierker, Bo Carter, Bob Lutz, Hank Martin and Gerry Phelan.

The results of the fall tournament (team best ball) were:

Championship Flight

1. Art Johnson/Bill Meldrum (61) -- 10 under par, on a tiebreaker
2. Gerry Schwalbe/Mike Kruckeburg (61)
3. Don Sweeney/Bill Sutton (66)

Art Johnson and Bill Meldrum won the least putts contest (26). Don Sweeney and Art Johnson won the closest to the pin contest on Holes 5 and 15, respectively. Mike Kruckeburg won the long drive contest.

A Flight

1. Charlie Denzel/Steve Dierker (64)
2. Fred Bader/Jim Baker (66)
3. Mike Houser/John Dierker (67)

Rich Mills and Bob Lutz won least putts with 27. Bo Carter came out on top in the long drive contest. Mike Houser (Hole 5) and Fred Bader (Hole 15) won closest to the pin prizes.

B Flight

1. Ron Lindsay/Larry Wernle (54)

2. Elmer Huizenga/Rich Sovar (61)

3. Jim Butery/Hank Martin (62)
Dennis Gould and Bob Maxwell won least putts with 27. Rochelle Ross won the long drive contest, while Larry Wernle and Dennis Gould won the closest to the pin contests on Holes 5 and 15, respectively.

League awards went to:

Mel Baldus - low handicap (2.76)

Don Sweeney - most improved, competitive (-22.2%)

Laurie Busse - most improved, non-competitive (-27%)

Larry Wernle - Rich Buncie trophy, fall tournament (net 56)

Don Sweeney - most valuable player (+14)

Don Sweeney - club long toss, fall tournament, a putter from No. 14 green to No. 15 lake on the fly, about 36 yards

Officers for the 1995 season are: President, Ken Koller, Secretary, Jeff Maynard, and Treasurer, John Perulfi.

Army Management Staff College, or How I spent my summer

By Randy Curtis, ED-GI

Since I've returned in mid-August, I've had quite a few people ask about my experiences and impressions of the Army Management Staff College (AMSC). Since it's listed on the ACTEDS for most everyone at the GS-12-14 levels, I'm guessing a fair number of you are moderately interested. I am the third District employee to attend, the others being Gene DeGenhardt and Barb Scott.

WHAT IS AMSC?

It's a 14 week course whose purpose is to instruct "key personnel" (their words not mine) in strategies, doctrine and systems relating to the Total Army, with emphasis on the sustaining base. It's intended to give civilian employees of the DA some of what's covered at the command and staff colleges for military officers.

WHAT WAS THE CURRICULUM LIKE?

The course is divided into four modules: "Leadership, Manage-

ment and Decision Making"; "Security, Doctrine, & Forces"; "Army Force Integration"; "Sustaining Base Management" and a final series of Capstone Exercises.

Lessons cover such specifics as awards, discipline, labor relations, RIFS, national security strategy, PPBES (Planning, Programming, Budgeting, Execution System), leadership, Myers-Briggs Personality Types, etc. However, that's only the tip of the iceberg. A LOT of material is covered.

(Continued on next page)



HOW WERE THE CLASSES ORGANIZED?

The college is comprised of 200 students who are divided into smaller groups of about 14 persons each called seminars. Lessons are divided between the lecture hall, with everyone attending, and the smaller seminar rooms.

Talks in the lecture hall were provided by top civilian and military leaders, such as Major General Sobke of Corps of Engineers, the Sergeant Major of the Army or one of the Assistant Secretaries of the Army. The seminars provided further instruction and were where most of the interaction occurred. Seminar discussions were often spirited but informative and persuasive. "Practical exercises" in seminar reinforced the lessons, though hopefully the one on RIFs was a waste of time.

There were two field trips: one to the Marine's Leadership Reaction Course at Quantico and the other a staff ride of the Gettysburg battlefield. In addition, we took one elective course on such topics as national security strategy, the congressional budget process, speech, or the contract representative course.

DO I RECOMMEND GOING?

Yes and no. Depends on what you want, see below:

ON THE NEGATIVE SIDE

It's a lot of work. Not so much that it's hard, as there is a lot of it. Generally, I studied 3-4 hours a night and for the better part of a day on the weekends. Gene and Barb both warned me about this, but I figured they were exaggerating. They weren't.

The nightly reading averages about 50 pages. Keeping up isn't difficult as long as you put the time in. Since you are away from home and its associated distractions, it's

easier in many ways than going to night school.

Parts of the curriculum were frustrating for the non-military types such as myself. Since the class is not geared towards the civil works mission, much of it was not directly applicable and the acronyms were hell (one of our manuals has an appendix of acronyms 38 pages long!).

ON THE POSITIVE SIDE

It was very interesting and challenging and I learned a lot. Most of the material was new to me and I gained a much better appreciation of the military, as to the whys, hows and whats.

The value of readiness exercises for disaster and humanitarian assistance was greatly increased in my view. I also gained an improved understanding of the difficulties with performing these missions as well. Besides our past missions of flood fighting, Hurricane Andrew and Loma Prieta Earthquake, I saw direct application of preparedness to the Dam Safety program that my office helps implement.

DO THEY GRADE YOU?

Most of the activities are not graded, but there were 8 graded requirements: 4 tests, 3 papers and a 20 minute oral book analysis. Seventy percent was considered passing and you had to pass everything. About 10-15% of the people had to retake the first test, but there were very few retakes after that. AMSC recommends the awarding of up to 12 undergraduate and up to 15 graduate level college credits if you get an 80% or better on all the requirements. At least one college has accepted this credit.

WHO GOES TO AMSC?

Students come from all over the DA, such as the Army Material Command (i.e. the folks on Goodfellow Blvd.), USAREUR (US Army Europe) as well as the COE

(about 10-12% of my class). The average age of the students was 45 and the male to female ratio was 2 to 1. The majority of the students were civilians, but there were approximately 7% military officers (majors and lieutenant colonels) attending also.

WHERE'S IT AT?

It's located at Fort Belvoir, VA in suburban Washington, DC. Life on an Army base is very similar to being at college. There's lots of trees and the grounds are well kept. The quarters are a cross between a dormitory and hotel, with a kitchenette. It was pretty nice.

DID I HAVE TO EXERCISE?

No, they don't make you do push ups, run or any of that "Fit To Win" stuff. However, they strongly encourage it. There were several indoctrination sessions on health consciousness and exercise training.

WAS IT ALL WORK?

No. I got to go to the museums, historic sites or the Kennedy Center for a day every weekend. We also got to experience some of the terrific restaurants and pubs in and around Alexandria, VA.

AM I GLAD I WENT?

Yes, now that it's over. Several times in the middle of the program, I had serious misgivings about what I was doing there. It's one of those experiences that's a bit overwhelming while you are in the thick of it, but after it's all over you're glad you went through it. It wasn't nearly as bad as the '93 flood fight.

If you are interested in going, feel free to talk to me, Gene or Barb about the experience. We'll be glad to talk you into it, or out of it, as the case may be. The suspense date is 12 Dec. for next summer and I have an application. AMSC is offering a non-resident option beginning in 1995.



Attack of the alien invaders

By Erin Connett, Riverlands Summer Aid

Dreissena polymorpha, otherwise known as the zebra mussel, is one pest in the United States that has caused economical and ecological havoc. It has affected all areas of the food chain. The impacts are only beginning to be understood. This bivalve has affected industries, utilities, marinas, boaters, ecosystems, fisheries and water systems everywhere.

The zebra mussel originated in the Ponto-Caspian region of Western Russia. It first began spreading throughout Europe in the 1700s by accidental transport on boats. Within the short span of about 45 years, the zebra mussel was able to colonize almost all of the freshwater systems in Europe.

It is believed that the first zebra mussel arrived in the U.S. in 1985 or 1986 in discharged ballast water of a trans-Atlantic ship from Europe to Lake St. Clair, located between Lake Erie and Lake Huron. Ballast water is water used to fill an empty ship to keep it balanced. This species of zebra mussel quickly spread throughout

the Great Lakes and have been spotted from Charlevoix, Michigan, all the way down to Vicksburg, Mississippi.

The zebra mussel traveled down the Illinois River into the Mississippi. They were first spotted in Alton, Illinois, in September 1991. Zebra mussels are very thick at the confluence of the two rivers. During the Great Flood of 1993, zebra mussels had more space than ever to breed. They even were found on the sidings of houses. Zebra mussels have been found attached to underwater gears and cables on the Melvin Price Locks and Dam. Their infestation can cause temporary shut down of the locks and dam gates until the mussels are cleared off.

Zebra mussels filter food particles of microscopic plants and animals out of the water. It is estimated that 7,000 mussels per square meter in Lake Erie could filter out the entire basin in one day. Zebra mussels also feed on detritus, the dead or decaying matter of plants and animals and the fecal matter of other animals.

As zebra mussels grow they form clumps that damage boats, pipes and buoys. They kill clams,

other mussels and crayfish by attaching themselves to the outer shell of the animal. Zebra mussels also foul beaches with their awful smell and razor sharp shells.

Benefits are few compared to the billions of dollars in damage they cause. They have been found to absorb and store pollutants and toxic wastes, so they actually purify the water. These mussels are edible if you can stand the stench and you don't get any that have absorbed toxic wastes. They can be harvested and crushed to make an excellent fertilizer because of their stable proteins. Their unusual shells can be made into jewelry. They have been found to help walleye and white bass hatcheries by eating a fungus that normally kills the eggs. Activities aimed at using the benefits will help offset the devastation done by these little bivalves.

There are many control methods, but most are temporary. Most water treatment plants use chemicals or thermal heating to eliminate mussels. They can be removed also by sandblasting or hydroblasting. There are paints mixed with tabasco sauce being used to protect boats and other materials. Boaters throughout the Riverlands area are being warned to clean all mud and plant matter from their boats, trailers, propellers, live wells and anchors before leaving a landing.

(Editor's Note: Erin Connett, a sophomore at Alton High School, has been studying the zebra mussel as part of a science fair project for the past two years. Erin received the Army's Environmental Award in 1993 for her research project on the zebra mussel.)



National American Indian Heritage Month

Indian Scouts helped open the West

By Evelyn D. Harris
American Forces Information
Service

In old-time Westerns, American Indians were usually portrayed as uniformly hostile to white settlers. In reality, Indian Scouts fought alongside federal troops.

After the Civil War, Indians became part of the enlisted Army ranks, according to historians at the Army's Center for Military History in Washington. Previously the Indians had been hired as civilian auxiliaries.

On August 1, 1866, the War Department established the U.S. Indian Scouts. Scouts received the same pay, allowances and uniforms as regular soldiers. For a time they were distinguished by a hat ornament showing two crossed arrows with points up, with the letters "U.S.S.," for "United States Scouts," above the arrows.

Some Scouts wore native dress with regulation uniforms. The Pawnee Scouts, commanded by Capt. Luther North, was a well-organized unit that protected workers against hostile attacks during the building of the railroads in the West. North said his men prepared for battle by stripping down to loincloths. To distinguish themselves from hostile tribes they wore bandannas.

Military commanders in the West were lavish in their praise of the Scouts. "I respectfully call attention to the use of Indian Scouts," wrote Maj. Gen. H.W. Halleck in 1867. "Their services have proved of the greatest value - they are almost indispensable."

Although the Scouts' impact on the West was great, their numbers weren't. In 1867, Army rolls

showed 474 Scouts. Ten years later there were 600. White soldiers, who had difficulty pronouncing Indian names, gave Scouts nicknames like Sgt. Deadshot, Sgt. Charlie Bones or Cpl. Dandy Jim. Some even gave them number or letter names like Sgt. Y or Pvt. 10.

One of the Scouts' many duties was supplying the post tables with meat. Legend has it that a scout, given the order to bag 60 turkeys and two deer for the post's usual Thanksgiving meal, sent back word after a day in the mountains, "Is that all you want?"

In addition to protecting workers, Indian Scouts protected settlers. Settlers in Arizona, and indeed other Indian tribes, were frequently attacked by Apaches. When President Ulysses S. Grant sent Maj. Gen. George Crook to command the Department of Arizona in 1871, Crook soon decided to rely on Indian Scouts there as he had in other areas of the West.

According to historian Joyce Evelyn Mason, Crook "preferred results to form." He wore duck hunting pants and a long linen duster in place of a uniform. This enabled him to slip into the territory unnoticed, so he could study his opponents. He had great respect for the Apache warrior, "who had been trained to fight from birth and knew the Southwest as his home."

Crook said that when faced with Apache warriors, regular troops were as "helpless as a whale attacked by a school of swordfish." Crook studied Apache tactics, which relied heavily on ambush: "Few saw them, but many felt the sting of their arrows."

He recruited Indian Scouts from among tribes that were traditional

enemies of the Apaches. The Apache tribe itself was fragmented, so he also recruited from rival bands of Apaches. One Crook lieutenant, Charles B. Gatewood, later famous for his role in the surrender of Geronimo in 1886, advised other recruiting officers that if they approached a man who wanted revenge they would secure a good Scout. Gatewood approached potential Scouts with these words, "Here are a good gun and plenty of ammunition, rations, pay, and above all, a chance for revenge."

Realizing that rank meant little to the Indians, but effectiveness meant much, Crook chose his youngest, strongest men as officers to lead the Scouts. Since promotions came so slowly in the peacetime Army, Crook figured his young officers would endure much and fight well in the hope of advancement.

To win the Indians' trust, Crook first used them as trackers and



(Continued on page 12)



Scouts (cont.)

guides, and instructed their commanders that "under no circumstances should any of the Scouts be injured in the fight." That way the Scouts gained confidence that they were not being used as "cannon fodder," and when allowed to fight, they suffered casualties without a loss of morale.

Gradually, Crook recruited more and more Apaches as Scouts. This left fewer hostile Apaches to fight the government troops, and, Mason said, "The Scouts also served as pseudo-hostages to ensure the loyalty of their family and the local band on the reservation."

Crook also hoped the Scouts' association with American officers would enable the Apache Scouts to have a better opinion of the white men. He also knew it would give the white troops a better understanding of the Indians. One of Crook's men, Capt. John Bourke, wrote that the longer the officers knew the Apache Scouts, the better they liked them - the Scouts were not only loyal, but also endowed with great courage and daring.

The Indian Scouts fought their last fight on May 5, 1916, at the Ojos Azules Ranch some 300 miles below the Mexican border during Gen. John J. Pershing's expedition into Mexico in pursuit of Pancho Villa.

Maj. Robert L. Howze led an Apache Scout detachment with a squadron of the 11th Cavalry to fight a band of Villa's men. Most of the Villistas escaped, but 44 were killed and many more wounded. No Americans or Indian Scouts were killed.

Some Scouts remaining from the expedition against Villa were stationed at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. They patrolled the post boundaries, kept out trespassers and served as guides for surveying parties. They were finally disbanded in 1947.

80,000 additional military jobs open to women Oct. 1

By Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Barrett, USA
American Forces Information Service

Women began competing for 80,000 additional military positions Oct. 1, bringing to nearly 260,000 the number of jobs opened to service women since April 1993.

The changes affect Army and Marine Corps ground forces. Changes allow assignment of women in Army brigade-level combat units and Marine Corps expeditionary headquarters elements.

DoD policy still excludes women from infantry, armor and field artillery career fields. They cannot take assignments to company and battalion-level units whose primary mission is direct ground combat. DoD also prohibits assignments to units co-located with combat elements and assignments with direct-combat special operations forces.

Women may compete for air defense artillery staff positions, selected engineer specialties and fixed-wing aviation positions. However, they cannot accept assignment with short-range artillery units, nor may they accept certain special forces assignments.

Under directions from former Defense Secretary Les Aspin, DoD began opening opportunities to women in April 1993. The first phase opened nearly 42,000 positions - most dealing with combat aviation assignments and duty aboard noncombatant Navy vessels.

That number jumped another 136,000 last November when

Congress repealed the prohibition keeping women off combat vessels.

Once Congress repealed the law, Aspin published a memorandum in January redefining direct ground combat. The memorandum set the rules governing personnel assignments to those units. Edwin Dorn, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, said the services used that guidance to evaluate units and duty positions for future openings.

The result opened nearly 33,000 Army and 48,000 Marine Corps positions. With these changes, over 80 percent of DoD military jobs and 92 percent of career fields are now open to women.

In the Army, women may hold 67 percent of the jobs, with 91 percent of career fields now open. Marine Corps women now compete in 62 percent of the jobs available, and are eligible for 93 percent of all Marine career fields.

By comparison, Navy women compete for 94 percent of all positions and are in 93 percent of the career fields. Over 99 percent of Air Force career fields and jobs are open to women.

Dorn admitted it's not likely there will be a female Army chief of staff or Marine Corps commandant in the future because of the ground combat prohibition. However, he said, it's possible for women to compete for Air Force chief of staff or chief of naval operations.

Dorn said he hopes the changes can increase women's armed forces representation. Next year, Dorn said, a new marketing campaign will target recruiting women for military service.



Halloween, the ancient festival

The day of its celebration has remained the same almost a thousand years. Halloween, or All Hallows' Eve, has been celebrated on October 31 since the middle ages.

The day has had other names as well as the best-known. In ancient Britain and Ireland it was called Samhain, the occasion in both Celtic and Anglo-Saxon times was celebrated as a huge fire festival. Large bonfires were set on hilltops to frighten away evil spirits. The day was also connected with the

return of herds from pasture and as the time of renewal for land tenures. It was also New Year's Eve!

The souls of the dead were said to revisit their homes on this day. The festival acquired sinister meanings with ghosts, witches and hob-goblins of all kinds said to be roaming about. But Halloween was also thought to be the most favorable time for predictions concerning marriage, luck, health and death.

These pagan observances influenced the Christian festival of All Hallows' Eve, celebrated on the same day. Gradually, Halloween became a religious observance, but many of the old customs remained. In Scotland, young people assembled for games to determine who would marry during the year.

Immigrants to North America introduced the custom of mischief-making on this occasion, but the occasion became an event celebrated mainly by small children who go from house to house in costume with the "trick or treat" declaration.

Today the event is celebrated in retail establishments as salespeople dress in costume and wish shoppers a "Happy Halloween!"

—Earth Notes—

Earth-friendly computers

If all computers were equipped with an energy-saving "sleep" mode, national energy reduction would be dramatic. New computers and those with energy-saving retrofit kits could save up to 26 billion kilowatts of energy by the year 2000, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). That's enough electricity to power Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont for an entire year, according to the EPA.

Recycling old refrigerators

Most utility companies will now pick up or accept old, energy-guzzling refrigerators people have in their basements. In addition to saving owners \$100 a year or more for electricity, the utility will recycle the metal and remove chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and properly dispose of them. What's in it for the utility company? With fewer inefficient refrigerators using electricity, the need for additional plants and energy production will be reduced.

The world's greatest production ever

The June D-Day anniversary brought recollections of the greatest production effort of all time.

Sixty million Americans went to work in the factories to produce what Time magazine has described as "The astonishing materials of war," including:

88,410 heavy to light tanks
6,552,296 rifles

15,603,000 shaving brushes
4,490,000 bayonets
519,122,000 pairs of socks
634,569 jeeps
2,679,819 machine guns
7,570 railway locomotives
476,628 antitank bazookas
7,309,000 500-lb. bombs
237,371,000 cans of insect repellent
25,065,834,000 rnds of .30-cal.am

Donald Nelson, chairman of the War Production Board from 1942 to 1944 said, "The American war-production job was probably the greatest collective achievement of all time. It makes the seven wonders of the ancient world look like the doodlings of a small boy on a rainy Saturday afternoon."



To your health

In-line skates must combine safety with speed

By Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Barrett,
USA
American Forces Information
Service

Experienced skaters perform with the grace and style of Nancy Kerrigan. They can generate the speed of Dan Jansen or combine the speed and stick handling of Mario Lemieux or Steve Yzerman to score goals.

Yet they've never set foot on ice.

The 1990s have seen in-line skating change traditional roller skating into ancient history. The sport, with roots on the Southern California boardwalks, now involves 12 million skaters nationwide.

It's popular in training winter athletes. Cross-country skiers, speed skaters and hockey players use in-line skates to condition themselves for their ice and snow competition during winter months. There is even a professional roller hockey league.

Most in-line skaters are doing it for exercise and recreation -- and doing it in large numbers. Thousands of skaters now in-line their local fitness course as an alternative to running or cycling.

Its benefits are tremendous, according to Dr. Carl Foster, an exercise physiologist. Cardiac rehabilitation and exercise testing director at Sinai Samaritan Medical Center in Milwaukee, Foster told *Essence* magazine in-line skating is the perfect all-around sport.

"Running doesn't build strength and weightlifting doesn't do anything aerobically," said Foster.

"In-line skating builds muscle, and it gives you an aerobic workout." Its benefits include toning hips and thighs and can burn 250 to 500 calories in a 30-minute workout.

According to Gary Bingham, community relations assistant with the National Hockey League's Washington Capitals, in-line skating teaches balance and is good conditioning.

Yet for all its benefits, in-line skating doesn't help anyone if skaters don't have proper training and proper equipment. The Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates 83,000 in-line skating accidents requiring emergency room visits will occur in 1994; 60 percent will involve children under 15. A June 15 report in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* cites 37 percent of all injuries involve broken or sprained wrists. Therefore, not only are quality skates essential, but also protective gear for the head, elbows, wrists and knees.

"When a person comes into the store for in-lines, my people also recommend helmets and pads," said Tom Allshouse of Champs sporting goods in Alexandria, Va. "Many think all we're doing is trying to increase the sale, but that's not the case."

Allshouse added many states require safety equipment. "In Virginia kids under 13 can't ride a bicycle without a helmet, and there's a move here to have the same rules apply to in-line skating," he said. "It's dumb for a person to come in, buy skates and think they're not going to fall."

Good, quality skates are not

cheap -- a good pair runs \$150 to \$200. Allshouse said many department stores offer in-lines at \$40 to \$50, but they don't provide the quality or support needed even for recreational use. "We recommend people first rent skates and equipment, learn the basics and find out if they like it." Skaters may also buy or rent instructional videos that teach the basics.

During the beginning phase, learning how to balance is the most important part of in-line skating. *Essence* health writer Benilde Little recommends practice on grass or a carpet before hitting the trails, avoiding hills and inclines until skills improve and using ski poles for stability.

Allshouse gives some hints on looking for the best possible skate:

- * Test the boot for ankle support. If the boot flexes easily, it may not offer enough support.
- * Make sure the brake is not too small or too soft.
- * Make sure the frame is strong and rigid.
- * Check the wheels and bearings. Soft wheels are best for outdoor skating, as they absorb shock and grip pavement. Hard wheels are more for competitive skating and used mainly indoors. Bearings should turn smoothly and quietly.
- * In-lines are best fitted when wearing appropriate socks.
- * Initially avoid five-wheel skates. These are for racing and training. Allshouse recommends three and four-wheel skates for recreational use.



Retiree Review

By the Retiree Correspondent

On September 15, nineteen retirees convened at the Salad Bowl for our September luncheon. I wonder if some didn't realize it was meeting day since it was so early in the month. Nonetheless, we had a very interesting gathering.

The Jim Bakers were back. Last month they were on a family reunion trip to Ireland, Scotland and Wales. Quite a few of the family made the trip. Sounded like a great reunion, but we're glad to have them with us this month. Estelle and Elmer Huizenga were back, sporting a new "wild cherry" Cadillac. Beautiful car. Glad to have them back, too.

Don Wampler was there - two months in a row. Glad to see you, Don. Keep coming every month.

Mary and Lee Briece are going to take a flight to La Guardia, then take a steamer for a cruise to Europe. Sounds like a wonderful vacation trip. Enjoy.

The Wisemans are leaving for Arizona before the October meeting. We'll miss them for the winter months. Enjoy Arizona for the cold months here.

Lyle Forth was back, completely recovered - gained weight and looks 10 years younger. See you every month, Lyle.

Charlie Denzel is having bypass surgery September 20. Good luck, Charlie. We'll be checking on you and keeping you in our prayers.

Mary Jane Jansen remains in St. Anthony's rehabilitation and still has a way to go for complete recovery. Keep her in your prayers also.

Huber now auctioneer

One of our retirees is now an auctioneer. Carl Huber, who retired from CT in the fall of 1993, completed the course in Auctioneering and Auction Sales Management at the Missouri Auction School in Kansas City, the world's largest auction training center.

Our Senior Retiree again was Bob Maxwell - 1972. He passed the honor to Elmer Huizenga, a 1973 retiree. Congratulations to both.

Stan Wiseman was our Birthday recipient. Happy Birthday, Stan, and many more.

The Corps' Golf Tournament was played last Monday (Sept. 12). Most all retirees playing won something. Congratulations.

Condolences are extended to the family of William H. Bell. Bill was forced to retire because of an injury sustained at Lock and Dam 26 in 1976. Also condolences to the family of Leona E. Cullen, Mike Cullen's mother, who passed away on September 1 at age 94. And to the family of Alice A. Busch, John Jansen's aunt. And to the family of Tom Durham, past lockmaster at old Locks and Dam 26. Tom died suddenly of an apparent heart attack on July 26.

Estelle Huizenga, Lee Briece and Don Wampler were the lucky ones in the Pot-O-Gold. Congratulations.

We did not have a representative from the District office. We hope to have representation at every meeting so we can keep in touch with our successors. The Corps has been a big part of our lives and we are interested in keeping up-to-date on its "goings-on."

Mark your calendars for October 20 - Salad Bowl about 11 o'clock. Don't forget. October 20 at the Salad Bowl for our monthly luncheon - good food, good comraderie, good stories, good reminiscences - just a very pleasant time.

He has participated in selling at many public auctions in Kansas City and nearby communities in Missouri and Kansas. His training included antique auctions, livestock, furniture, business liquidations, real estate, rare coins, autos, machinery, general merchandise and all types of estate auctions.

The flu bug is on its way

The best time to line up for a flu shot is in late October.

Doctors writing in the *Mayo Clinic Health Letter* say the shots should be completed by mid-November at the latest. It takes about two weeks for protection to take effect.

The vaccinations are important for anyone who wants to avoid the misery and lost work days the flu may cause. The shots are especially important for anyone with chronic conditions such as heart disease,

diabetes, kidney disease, anemia, asthma, or a weakened immune system. Shots are also recommended for everyone over age 65.

People with chronic conditions should also consider pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccinations. This shot prevents some forms of pneumonia. Ask your physician if it is appropriate for you, especially if you have any of the conditions listed above. *The Harvard Health Letter* recommends that everyone over age 65 be immunized and revaccinated again six years after the first shot.



General Vows As The Philippines Fall MacArthur Returns, Redeemed

Army Gen. Douglas A. MacArthur was not used to failure. He was first in his class at West Point. He was the youngest U.S. general officer following the World War I combat exploits that had earned him the Distinguished Service Cross and several Silver Stars. He served as Army Chief of Staff from 1930 to 1934, left the service and became field marshal of the Philippine army.

Recalled to active duty in 1941, MacArthur, whom one biographer called an "American Caesar," failed in defending the Philippines from a Japanese attack. The day after the Pearl Harbor attack, the Japanese surprised him and destroyed most of his Far East Air Force on the ground.

U.S. and Filipino forces never recovered from the Japanese blow. On May 6, 1942, the last organized American forces on Corregidor Island surrendered.

But MacArthur wasn't there. President Franklin D. Roosevelt had ordered him to Australia. The general, however, intoned the words that would reverberate for years: "I shall return."

MacArthur was vain and surrounded himself with

sycophants. His gold-encrusted cap, corncob pipe and sunglasses became his trademarks. These affectations didn't endear GIs serving in the Southwest Pacific, who called him "Dugout Doug."

But many biographers consider MacArthur a military genius. He put together a force to stop the Japanese from capturing the crucial city of Port Moresby on the island of New Guinea. Command of the sea gave him the ability to advance westward along the north coast of the 1,500-mile-long island using leap-frogging tactics. On Oct. 20, 1944, MacArthur was ready to pay off on his pledge to liberate the Philippines.

In the biggest operation in

the Pacific theater, the Navy landed more than 200,000 Americans on the central main island of Leyte. MacArthur followed the first wave ashore, wading through the shallows from a landing craft. With him was Philippine President Sergio Osmena. The general saluted as an American flag ran up a flagpole and broadcast an address to the Philippine people. By returning to the Philippines at the head of a conquering army, Douglas MacArthur had redeemed his biggest failure.

— American Forces Information Service



Paul Salmon